

CLASSIFICATION

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC Soviet Troops in the Chemnitz Area

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

50X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 16 May 1951

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REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. During the night of 31 March 1951, the troops from the Artillerie Kaserne on Leninstrasse, Chemnitz (N 51/K 66), left for Aue (N 51/K 53), leaving behind only a detail of about 10 men. About 300 troops on trucks moved into the installation on the evening of 1 April. Fourteen officers and from 250 to 270 EM assembled in the barracks yard for roll call on 3 April. All troops observed wore black-bordered red epaulets. About 50 percent seemed to be recruits. Vehicles seen at the installation included passenger

jeeps. All were driven by soldiers who wore black-bordered red epaulets.

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2. Between 27 and 29 March, the western section of the barracks installation on Leninstrasse, Chemnitz, was occupied by not more than 600 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. The same troops were previously seen wearing red-bordered green epaulets. Motor vehicles

driven and occupied by soldiers with black-bordered crimson epaulets, were observed. The same vehicles were previously seen at the installation. personnel at the MVD office on Mommsenstrasse, Plauen, now wore black-bordered crimson epaulets instead of the previous red-bordered green epaulets. (1)

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3. On 30 March, the Infanterie Kaserne on Leninstrasse, Chemnitz, housed a division headquarters and an AAA unit of soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets. A unit of 600 to 700 men, including officers, marched with band music from the barracks installation to the Zeisig Woods and returned after about 2 hours.

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4. The Infanterie Kaserne on Leninstrasse did not appear to be occupied to capacity at the end of March. The tank troops who were said to have been located there previously had apparently left the installation.

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Since only 50 percent of the barracks windows were lighted between 27 and 29 March, [] estimated [] troops at 800 to 1,000. Soldiers observed wore red-bordered black epaulets, almost exclusively with artillery insignia. Two trucks [] towing 88-mm AA guns left the installation. A unit of more than 100 men wearing artillery insignia and led by a captain was also observed marching out of the billeting area. []

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5. Uniforms with red-bordered black epaulets were hung out of windows at the military quarters at 19-21 Rosmarinenstrasse in Siegmars-Schoenau, west of Chemnitz, on 30 March. The sentry in front of the quarters and a detail of 16 men marching out wore red-bordered black epaulets. Truck [] was seen moving from Siegmars-Schoenau to the Artillerie Kaserne in Ebersdorf. The driver and 16 soldiers riding in the truck wore red-bordered black epaulets. (3)

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6. Between 27 and 29 March, [] the Artillerie Kaserne and the Nachrichten Kaserne in Ebersdorf quartered tank and artillery troops. [] about 1,000 troops with 20 guns and about 30 tanks were located there. Soldiers wearing artillery insignia were observed. [] a 57-mm AT guns and a T-34/85 tank in the billeting area of the Nachrichten Kaserne. [] columns of up to 8 tanks and several small four-wheel armored reconnaissance cars were repeatedly seen leaving for field training. []

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7. The Furth or Fuchsdelle settlement near Ebersdorf, occupied by 1,600 Germans, was to be cleared by 1 April. Inns near the settlement were being requisitioned and vacated. (4)

8. A train carrying troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, 20 light AA guns, and numerous trucks was seen at the Chemnitz railroad station early on 27 or 28 March. The AA guns had long barrels with funnel-shaped muzzle brakes and four-wheel carriages.

Comments.

(1)

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The strength of the units, [] is estimated at about one battalion. [] the troops no longer wore red-bordered green epaulets, but black-bordered red epaulets. [] also observed personnel with black-bordered red epaulets in LVD quarters, such as in Guestrow and Berlin-Gruenau, it is believed that the LVD units in the Soviet Zone of Germany have changed their service color. [] The movement of elements of the unit in the Artillerie Kaserne to Aue indicates that the unit is assigned to duty in the uranium mining area. []

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- (2) The information [] paragraph 4 indicates a reduction in the number of troops quartered in the Infanterie Kaserne on Leninstrasse. The troops absent from the installation are believed to have been elements of the 8th Gds Mecz Div, tank components of which were reported to have practiced at Koenigsbrueck from late March to about 12 April 1951. []

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- (3) An agency of the Wismut Corporation was previously reported to have been located in a restricted area between Hauptstrasse and Rosmarienstrasse, Siegmars-Schoenau, which was guarded by LVD sentries wearing red-bordered green epaulets. The present report is not specific as to whether the military quarters is located in this restricted area. If the quarters is actually located in the restricted area, it was no longer occupied by LVD personnel, since the troops there wore red-bordered black epaulets and seemed to be affiliated with the Artillerie Kaserne in Ebersdorf.
- (4) The information [redacted] does not permit any conclusions as to the identity of the troops who recently moved into the Nachrichten Kaserne in Ebersdorf and the Furth settlement.
- [redacted]

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